

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the specification:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a¹ In a first embodiment, the invention provides a method for promoting wound repair in a subject in need of such treatment by administering to the subject or contacting the site of the wound with a wound-healing effective amount of a composition containing a wound healing polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1) and conservative variants thereof having wound healing activity. In one aspect of the method, the wound healing polypeptide is Tβ4 or an isoform of Tβ4.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a² In another embodiment, the invention provides a method for promoting tissue repair in a tissue in need of such treatment by contacting the tissue with an effective amount of a composition containing a wound healing polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1) and conservative variants thereof having wound healing activity, or nucleic acid encoding a wound healing polypeptide. In one aspect of the method, a wound healing peptide is Tβ4 or an isoform of Tβ4. The tissue may be contacted either *in vivo* or *ex vivo*.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a³ In yet another embodiment, the invention provides a method of modulating wound repair in a subject in need of such treatment by systemic delivery of a wound-healing effective amount of a wound healing polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1) and conservative variants thereof having wound healing activity. In one aspect of the method, a wound healing peptide is Tβ4 or an isoform of Tβ4.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a4 In yet another embodiment, the present invention provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising a wound healing polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1) and conservative variants thereof having wound healing activity and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In one aspect, the wound healing polypeptide is Tβ4 or an isoform of Tβ4.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a5 --FIG. 10 shows an amino acid sequence of Tβ4 (SEQ ID NO:2)--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a6 FIG. 11 shows the amino acid sequence of several known isoforms of Tβ4, and their phylogenetic distribution (SEQ ID NOS:2 through 15, respectively). N-terminal acetylation is indicated by "ac." Residues between 13 and 24 are thought to be important for actin binding.--

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a7 Tβ4 isoforms have been identified and have about 70%, or about 75%, or about 80% or more homology to the amino acid sequence of Tβ4 set forth in Fig. 10. Such isoforms include, for example, Tβ4^{ala}, Tβ9, Tβ10, Tβ11, Tβ12, Tβ13, Tβ14 and Tβ15 (Fig. 11; see also, Mihelic *et al.*, (1994) *Amino Acids*, 6:1-13, which describes the amino acid sequence of other Tβ4 isoforms, and is incorporated herein by reference). Similar to Tβ4, the Tβ10 and Tβ15 isoforms have been shown to sequester actin. Tβ4, Tβ10 and Tβ15, as well as these other isoforms share an amino acid sequence, LKKTET (SEQ ID NO:1), that appears to be involved in mediating actin sequestration or binding. Although not wishing to be bound to any particular theory, the wound healing activity of Tβ4 and Tβ4 isoforms may be due, in part, to the ability to polymerize